

**CONTACT: Don Rhodes, 213/236-1840**  
**Jeff Lustgarten, 323/466-3445**



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**June 29, 2005**

**SCAG LEADER, VENTURA COUNTY SUPERVISOR JUDY MIKELS ELECTED  
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS**

**MONTEREY, CALIF.** – Judy Mikels, Ventura County Supervisor and longtime leader of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), was elected to serve as Senior Vice President for the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) at their 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference. Supervisor Mikels has served as California’s district representative on the NARC Governing Board since 2001.

Mikels served as SCAG President in 1997-98, leading the agency through its adoption of *CommunityLink 21*, the 1998 Regional Transportation Plan. In addition to serving as SCAG’s president, Mikels chairs the organization’s Aviation Task Force, leading efforts to develop a regional airport system for Southern California. She is also a member of the Ventura County Air Pollution Control District, the Economic Development Collaborative for Ventura County, the Local Agency Formation Commission, and the Eastern Ventura County Conservation Authority.

“As Senior Vice President of NARC, I want to collaborate with the membership to find ways to promote and advance best practices that demonstrate the importance of working regionally,” said Mikels. “We need to be more strategic in how we manage federal, state and local resources and regional councils. Metropolitan planning organizations are experienced and knowledgeable about what works.”

“I will draw upon my experience as an elected officials, businesswoman and regional council president to continue to promote NARC and its goals. I plan to seek out opportunities to advocate on behalf of regional councils and metropolitan planning organizations throughout the United States,” continued Mikels.

SCAG is the nation’s largest metropolitan planning organization, representing six counties, 187 cities and more than seventeen million residents. Now celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of service to the region, SCAG undertakes a variety of planning and policy initiatives to plan for a livable, sustainable Southern California now and in the future. For more information about SCAG’s regional efforts, go to the SCAG Web site at [www.scag.ca.gov](http://www.scag.ca.gov).

NARC is the country’s preeminent organization representing regional councils of government and metropolitan planning organizations such as SCAG. NARC fosters cooperation and the building of regional communities through training, advocacy, technical assistance and policy dialogue. NARC’s members include public, private, academic, nonprofit, and civic regional organizations as part of its effort to engage the regional community in achieving excellence.